

June 8, 2005

California Department of Water Resources
Greetings;

I am writing with reference to your Volume 2, Chapter 26.

Some of our farmers are planning to fallow a portion of their lands in order to sell water. The fallowing could result in many negative results for those of us in Butte and other Northern Counties. Significant losses: income from selling the crop, jobs working the fields, crop dusting, grain harvesting and storage, sales of farm tools and supplies. Secondary losses could be: house payments, retail stores, and groceries.

The inadequate fees charged the water sellers do not meet the costs of administering the program, much less any of the secondary costs. We taxpayers will be burdened with the unmet costs.

Action needs to be taken at a higher than local level.



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